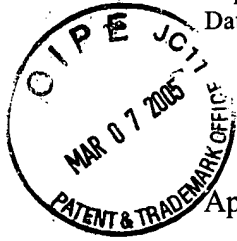


Express Mail Label No.: EV452427651 US  
Date of Deposit: March 7, 2005

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 27996-115



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): DWIGHT D. JAMIESON *et al.* Art Unit: 2153  
Serial No.: 09/131,051 Examiner: DUNG DINH  
Filing Date: August 7, 1998 Confirmation No.: 7277  
Attorney Docket No.: 27996-115

For: MULTI-PROTOCOL LABEL SWITCHING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS

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**MAIL STOP RCE**  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Sir:

With regard to the Outstanding Office Action dated October 5, 2004, the time for responding having been extended two months by the enclosed Petition For Extension of Time, from January 5, 2005 to March 7, 2005 (March 5, 2005 being a Saturday), the Applicants respectfully request continued examination of the application by filing the enclosed Request for Continued Examination. Applicants present the following Amendment and Response:

**Listing of the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.